

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-18

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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DAKAR POUCH BANJUL

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PORG, XA, UN

SUBJECT: COOPERATION WITH AFRICANS AT 29TH UNGA

1. IN THE COURSE OF THE COMING UNGA SESSION, WE WILL, AS WE HAVE IN THE PAST, CONSULT WITH AFRICAN DELEGATIONS IN NEW YORK AND MAKE DEMARCHES IN AFRICAN CAPITALS SEEKING AFRICAN SUPPORT ON ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE TO US. OVER THE PAST TWO OR THREE YEARS, WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MUSTER FEWER AND FEWER AFRICAN VOTES FOR RESOLUTIONS WE SUPPORT. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF REASONS FOR THIS, INCLUDING THE TREND TOWARD THIRD WORLD SOLIDARITY; THE GROWING COOPERATION BETWEEN PRODUCERS OF SCARCE PRIMARY PRODUCTS, AND EXPANDING AFRICAN INTEREST IN EXTRA-CONTINENTAL ISSUES, (WHICH, IN THE EARLY YEARS AFTER INDEPENDENCE, THEY GENERALLY IGNORED)

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2. IT IS PROBABLE THAT AS THE TENDENCY TOWARD BLOC VOT-
ING IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS INCREASES, THE USEFULNESS
OF THOSE ORGANIZATIONS AS MECHANISMS FOR THE RESOLUTION OF
INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS WILL CONCOMITANTLY DECLINE. WE
WISH, CONSEQUENTLY, TO IMPEDE THE PROCESS AS MUCH AS WE
CAN. THIS WILL INVOLVE MAKING A GREATER EFFORT AT BILATERAL
COOPERATION WITH THE AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS. TO BEGIN WITH,
AS WE AND THEY PREPARE FOR THE OPENING OF THE UNGA
SESSION IN SEPTEMBER, WE SHOULD BRING IT ONCE AGAIN TO THE
ATTENTION OF THE AFRICANS THAT WE WANT VERY MUCH TO
COOPERATE WITH THEM AT THE UNGA.

3. UNLESS THERE ARE OVERRIDING CONSIDERATIONS, EACH
MISSION SHOULD, THEREFORE, INFORM ITS HOST FOREIGN
MINISTRY AT AN APPROPRIATELY HIGH LEVEL THAT THE DEPARTMENT
WOULD BE PLEASED TO KNOW WHAT THE SPECIAL CONCERNS OF THE
HOST GOVERNMENT WILL BE AT THE COMING UNGA, SO THAT WE CAN
TAKE ITS INTERESTS INTO ACCOUNT AS WE BEGIN FORMULATING
OUR OWN POSITIONS ON QUESTIONS LIKELY TO ARISE THIS YEAR.
YOU SHOULD OFFER TO BE AVAILABLE FOR FURTHER CONSULTATIONS
ON MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST AS THE OPENING DATE OF THE
SESSION APPROACHES AND STRESS THAT OUR DELEGATION IN
NEW YORK WILL WELCOME DISCUSSIONS WITH THEIRS ON ANY
ISSUE THAT MAY BE OF IMPORTANCE TO THEM. YOU MAY EXPRESS
THE HOPE THAT THE UNITED STATES MAY BE ABLE TO SUPPORT
THEIR POSITIONS WHERE OUR INTERESTS ARE COMPATIBLE.

4. WE HOPE THAT THIS GESTURE WILL CONVINCE THE
AFRICANS THAT WE ARE GENUINELY DESIROUS OF RECIPROCAL
COOPERATION AND ARE NOT MERELY TRYING TO LINE THEM
UP FOR SUPPORT OF OUR POSITIONS WITHOUT GIVING THOUGHT
TO HELPING THEM WITH THEIR CONCERNS.

5. ANY SIGNIFICANT REACTIONS SHOULD BE REPORTED.

6. ANNUAL PRE-UNGA CIRCULAR GIVING US POSITIONS ON IM-
PORTANT ISSUES WILL BE SENT OUT SHORTLY. WE WOULD PREFER
POSTS MAKE APPROACH DESCRIBED ABOVE PRIOR TO PRESENTNG
OUR CONCERNS TO HOST GOVERNMENT, BUT FINAL DECISIONS AS
TO TIMING LEFT YOUR DISCRETION. KISSINGER
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